



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/092,178	03/05/2002	Teng Pin Poo	1601457-0013	7556

7590 03/02/2007  
White & Case LLP  
Attn: Patent Department  
1155 Avenue of the Americas  
New York, NY 10036

EXAMINER

PARK, ILWOO

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2182

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/02/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/092,178	POO ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Ilwoo Park	2182	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 12-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 12-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/27/06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 15-22 are added in response to the last office action. Claims 1-9 and 12-22 are presented for examination. Gotanda, Tosaka, Shimizu, and Matraszek et al were cited in the last office action.

### *Response to Arguments*

2. Applicant's arguments filed 11/27/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In the Remarks, Applicant alleges in substance that: a) a USB connector [element 31] of a digital camera shown in Gotanda is not a USB plug but a USB socket; b) the memory card taught in Gotanda cannot be *integrally* formed with *the portable digital camera* disclosed therein because it can be easily swapped in and out as the user wishes; c) Tosaka does not teach direct coupling of a portable camera device to a host platform by way of a USB plug that is integrally adapted to the housing of the portable camera device because Fig. 5 of Tosaka lacks any teaching of integrally adapted USB plug and Tosaka does not teach the type of USB interface (e.g., plug versus socket); and d) there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Gotanda and Tosaka because Gotanda a stand alone digital camera while Tosaka teaches a camera used only in conjunction with a notebook computer or Tosaka contains no statement of use for the camera independent from the notebook computer.

The Examiner, respectfully disagrees. For the point a), Gotanda teaches a USB communication between a personal computer [USB host] and a digital camera [USB device]; the USB communication follows the USB Specification described below:

- All USB devices must have the standard Series "A" connector specified in this chapter. The "B" connector allows device vendors to provide a standard detachable cable.

Art Unit: 2182

- Series “A” Connectors: Series “A” plugs are always oriented **upstream** towards the *Host system*. “A” plugs (*From the USB Device*). “A” Receptacles (*Downstream Output from the USB host or Hub*).
- Series “B” Connectors: Series “B” plugs are always oriented **downstream** towards the *USB Device*. “B” plugs (*From the Host System*). “B” Receptacles (*Upstream Input to the USB Device or Hub*)
- Series “A” receptacle mates with a Series “A” plug. Electrically, Series “A” receptacles function as output from host systems and/or hub.
- Series “A” plug mates with a Series “A” receptacle. The Series “A” plug always oriented towards the host systems.

[“Chapter 6 Mechanical of Universal Serial Bus Specification”, Revision 2.0, April 27, 2000]

Gotanda discloses a USB socket (receptacle) of a personal computer (USB host) connected to a USB connector of a digital camera (USB device) with a USB cable. If the USB connector of a digital camera is a Series “B” connector, then it should be a Series “B” socket; if the USB connector of a digital camera is a Series “A” connector, then it should be a Series “A” plug. Thus, the USB connector of the digital camera is either a plug or a socket; rather, it should be a plug if the USB digital camera follows the USB Specification since the Specification specifies “All USB devices must have the standard Series “A” connector.”

For the point b), the limitation of claim 1 is ‘a digital camera’ integrally formed with said non-volatile memory, not ‘the portable digital camera’ integrally formed with said non-volatile memory. Instant Application describes a digital camera (digital camera module 50 in fig. 1A) and said non-volatile memory (flash memory 20 in fig. 1A). As seen in the fig. 1A of the instant Application, a digital camera is separately apart from said non-volatile memory or is electrically coupled (this feature may be a support for “integrally formed” of claim) to said non-volatile memory. A digital camera of Gotanda also is electrically coupled with memory card 15 as a non-volatile memory.

Art Unit: 2182

For the point c), the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Omission of electric part, such the USB plug, in mechanical drawing fig. 5 of Tosaka doesn't mean that there is no USB plug. Tosaka teaches a USB socket [3a-3e in fig. 2] of a USB host platform [notebook type personal computer] is directly [fig. 1] connected to a USB plug of a portable digital camera without a cable [paragraphs 0012, 0017]. For direct connection without a cable, a USB socket of the USB host should be mated with a USB plug of the portable digital camera.

For the point d), claim requires a portable camera device in conjunction with a host platform. Gotanda and Tosaka both teach a portable camera device in conjunction with a host platform. Specifically, Gotanda and Tosaka both teach a portable digital camera and a personal computer connected through a USB interface transferring digital image therebetween. Tokasa further teaches the USB connection can be made directly without a cable; thereby the portable improvement in the connectability at the time of the camera use are obtained [Tosaka: paragraph 0017].

Therefore, the arguments are and persuasive and the rejections are respectfully maintained.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 15-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter

Art Unit: 2182

which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The claim limitation, such as "a notebook computer sitting on a flat surface without having to elevate the keyboard section from the flat surface", "the width of the housing is between 1 and 1.5 times the width of said USB plug", "the length of the housing is between 3.5 and 4 times the length of said USB plug", "said housing comprises 2 sets of substantially parallel faces substantially orthogonal to each other", "a notebook computer sitting on a flat surface such that there is a space between the body of the portable camera device and the flat surface", is not described in the specification.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-4, 9, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gotanda [JP 2002-232769A] in view of Tosaka [JP Hei 11-53060].

As to claim 1, Gotanda teaches a portable camera device [digital camera 2 in fig. 1] capable of operation with a host platform [personal computer 72], the portable camera device comprising:

a housing;

Art Unit: 2182

a USB connector [e.g., USB connector 31 in fig. 2] integrally adapted to the housing of the portable camera device to facilitate coupling of the portable camera device via the USB connector to a USB socket of the host platform;

a non-volatile memory [memory card 15 in figs. 1 and 4] in communication with said USB connector;

a digital camera, integrally formed with said non-volatile memory, for capturing image and/or audio information, said non-volatile memory capable of storing [paragraph 0018] said image and/or audio information; and

a microprocessor [CPU 48 in fig. 4] for at least in part formatting said image and/or audio information in a standard image and/or audio file format [e.g., JPEG in paragraph 0027] compatible with the host platform.

As to claim 12, Gotanda teaches a method of capturing image and/or audio information and uploading the image and/or audio information to a host platform, comprising the steps of:

(a) capturing image and/or audio information using a portable camera device [digital camera 2 in fig. 1] having a housing and a USB connector [e.g., USB connector 31 in fig. 2] adapted to the housing to facilitate coupling of the portable camera device via the USB connector [e.g., USB connector 31 in fig. 2] to a USB socket of the host platform;

(b) digitizing [paragraph 0025] said image and/or audio data captured in said step (a);

(c) processing [paragraph 0027] said image and/or audio data digitized in said step (b) into a form [e.g., JPEG] compatible with the host platform; and

(d) uploading [paragraph 0027] said image and/or audio data from the portable camera device to the host platform via a coupling of the USB connector to a USB socket of the host platform.

However, Gotanda does not teach the USB connector being a USB plug to facilitate direct coupling to the host platform; rather, Gotanda teaches indirect coupling to the host platform using a cable [paragraph 0029]. Tosaka teaches a portable camera device [camera 2 in fig. 1] having a USB plug integrally adapted to the housing of the portable camera device to facilitate not only direct coupling [fig. 1] but also indirect coupling [fig. 4] of the portable camera device via the USB connector to a USB socket of the host platform [personal computer]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Gotanda and Tosaka because they both teach both teach a portable digital camera and a host platform connected through a USB interface transferring digital image therebetween and the Tosaka's further teaching of the USB connection can be made directly without a cable would increase in the connectability at the time of the camera use are obtained [Tosaka: paragraph 0017, abstract].

7. As to claim 2, Gotanda teaches a non-volatile memory comprising a flash memory [memory card 15].

8. As to claim 3, Tosaka teaches said USB plug capable of coupling a USB port of the host platform [fig. 1].



Art Unit: 2182

9. As to claim 4, Gotanda teaches said standard image and/or audio file format comprising a JPEG file format [JPEG in paragraph 0027].

10. As to claim 9, Gotanda teaches a power source for providing power to components of the portable camera device [fig. 1].

11. As to claim 13, Gotanda teaches storing said image and/or audio data in a volatile memory [video memory 59, buffer memory 60 in fig. 4].

12. Claims 15 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gotanda [JP 2002-232769A] in view of Tosaka [JP Hei 11-53060] and further in view of Kambayashi et al. [US 6,992,721 B1].

As to claims 15 and 19, Gotanda teaches a portable camera device [digital camera 2 in fig. 1] capable of operation with a host platform [personal computer 72], the portable camera device comprising:

a housing;

a USB connector [e.g., USB connector 31 in fig. 2] integrally adapted to the housing of the portable camera device to facilitate coupling of the portable camera device via the USB connector to a USB socket of the host platform;

a non-volatile memory [memory card 15 in figs. 1 and 4] in communication with said USB connector;

a digital camera, integrally formed with said non-volatile memory, for capturing image and/or audio information, said non-volatile memory capable of storing [paragraph 0018] said image and/or audio information; and

a microprocessor [CPU 48 in fig. 4] for at least in part formatting said image and/or audio information in a standard image and/or audio file format [e.g., JPEG in paragraph 0027] compatible with the host platform.

However, Gotanda does not teach the USB connector being a USB plug to facilitate direct coupling to the host platform; rather, Gotanda teaches indirect coupling to the host platform using a cable [paragraph 0029]. Tosaka teaches a portable camera device [camera 2 in fig. 1] having a USB plug integrally adapted to the housing of the portable camera device to facilitate not only direct coupling [fig. 1] but also indirect coupling [fig. 4] of the portable camera device via the USB connector to a USB socket of the host platform [personal computer]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Gotanda and Tosaka because they both teach both teach a portable digital camera and a host platform connected through a USB interface transferring digital image therebetween and the Tosaka's further teaching of the USB connection can be made directly without a cable would increase in the connectability at the time of the camera use are obtained [Tosaka: paragraph 0017, abstract].

Though Tosaka further teaches a housing of the portable camera device and the USB plug are configured such that the portable camera device is capable of being directly plugged into a USB port located on the side of the keyboard section [left lateral section 3d, right lateral section 3e of a notebook computer 1 in fig. 2] of a notebook computer sitting on a flat surface, the combination of Gotanda and Tosaka does not expressly disclose the directly plugging without having to elevate the keyboard section

Art Unit: 2182

from the flat surface or the directly plugging having a space between the body of the portable camera device and the flat surface. Kambayashi et al teach a portable camera is capable of being directly plugged [figs. 1-3] into a USB port located on the side of the keyboard section of a notebook computer without having to elevate the keyboard section from the flat surface or the directly plugging having a space between the body of the portable camera device and the flat surface. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify to implement the teaching of the directly plugging without having to elevate the keyboard section from the flat surface or the directly plugging having a space between the body of the portable camera device and the flat surface into the directly plugging of the combination of Gotanda and Tosaka in order to reduce the stress of the direct plugging as taught by Kambayashi et al [abstract].

13. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gotanda and Tosaka as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Shimizu [US 6,753,921 B1].

As to claim 8, Gotanda and Tosaka do not explicitly disclose a power supply circuit for receiving power from the host platform and providing said power to components of the portable camera device. Shimizu teaches [col. 1, line 62-col. 2, line 9] a portable digital camera for coupling and communicating to a host platform has a power supply circuit for receiving power from the host platform and providing said power to components of the portable camera device. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a power

supply circuit for receiving power from the host platform and providing said power to components of the portable camera in order to increase simplicity by not requiring a DC adapter connection [col. 1, line 31-38 of Shimizu; fig. 4 of Gotanda].

14. Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gotanda and Tosaka as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of well-known in the art.

As to claims 5-7, though Gotanda and Tosaka show that one standard image and/or audio file format as an example for storing in the non-volatile memory device, Gotanda and Tosaka do not expressly show the example includes a GIF, a PICT II, or an MPEG file format for storing in the non-volatile memory device of the portable digital camera device. However, a portable digital camera device having a non-volatile memory device for storing image data prevalently using a well known form of a GIF, a PICT II, or an MPEG file format is well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include a GIF, a PICT II, or an MPEG file format in the one standard image and/or audio file format in order to increase flexibility in adapting a prevalent different well known file format.

15. Claims 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matraszek et al [US 2003/0122839 A1] in view of Tosaka [JP Hei 11-53060].

As to claim 14, Matraszek et al teach a method of authenticating an operator seeking access to information [e.g., images, metadata (personal affective information)] on a storage medium [e.g., hard drive 20, database 44], comprising the steps of:

(a) capturing ["video camera captures video images of the face of the user and stores this video information on the hard drive storage" in paragraph 0054] image and/or audio identification data [e.g., metadata in paragraph 0047] via a digital camera [video camera 4], said digital camera having a housing and a USB connector integrally adapted to the housing to facilitate coupling of the digital camera via the USB connector to a USB socket of a host platform [home computer 10 in fig. 1];

(b) comparing [e.g., "video camera is used in conjunction with face recognition software to automatically determine the user, and provide an appropriate user identifier, such as their name or personal identification code" at login in paragraphs 0067,0095, 0114] at least portions of said image and/or audio identification data against a template [user identifier or personal identification code created and stored previously] stored in a memory; and

(c) allowing access to the information if the image and/or audio identification data matches the stored template upon comparison in said step (b).

However, Matraszek et al do not teach the USB connector being a USB plug to facilitate direct coupling to the host platform; rather, Matraszek et al teach indirect coupling to the host platform using a cable [paragraph 0054]. Tosaka teaches a digital camera [camera 2 in fig. 1] having a housing and a USB plug integrally adapted to the housing to facilitate not only direct coupling [fig. 1] but also indirect coupling [fig. 4] of the digital camera via the USB connector to a USB socket of the host platform [personal computer]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Matraszek et al and Tosaka

because they both teach a digital camera coupling to a USB socket of a host platform and the Tosaka's further teaching of a digital camera having a USB plug integrally adapted to the housing of the digital camera to facilitate direct coupling of the digital camera via the USB plug to a USB socket of the host platform without using a USB cable would increase flexibility in connectivity [abstract of Tosaka] to the host platform.

### ***Conclusion***

16. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ilwoo Park whose telephone number is (571) 272-4155. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Huynh can be reached on (571) 272-4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Art Unit: 2182

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

**ILWOO PARK**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**



Ilwoo Park

February 16, 2007